

REMARKS

The Office Action mailed December 24, 2003 has been received and carefully noted. The amendments made herein and the following remarks are submitted as a full and complete response thereto.

No extension of time is believed to be required based upon the filing of this Amendment prior to the deadline of the three-month statutory period (i.e., March 24, 2004). Authorization is granted to charge undersigned counsel's Deposit Account No. 01-2300, referencing Attorney Docket No. 107156-00093, for any additional fees necessary for entry of this Amendment.

The Abstract and Specification of the invention have been amended. Applicants submit that the amendments made herein are fully supported in the Specification and the drawings as originally filed, and therefore no new matter has been introduced.

Particularly, the Specification has been amended to correct typographical errors. The Abstract of the disclosure stands objected to under 37 C.F.R. § 1.72(b). Specifically, the Examiner noted that the Abstract is not in proper language and format. The Abstract has therefore been amended to comply with U.S. patent practice. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-3 are pending in the present application and stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Yuen (U.S. Patent No. 5,659,367). Claims 2-3 are dependent on independent claim 1. The rejections are respectfully traversed and reconsideration is requested.

In making these rejections, the Examiner noted that the Yuen patent discloses all elements of the claimed invention. Applicants respectfully submits that each of claims 1-3 recites subject matter that is neither disclosed nor suggested by the Yuen patent.

Rather the Yuen patent merely discloses an apparatus for providing a television guide which includes a device for detecting whether a television is off and a device for switching a signal output from a first television signal source to a second television signal source. In contrast, the present claimed invention is directed to providing a switchover device for effecting a switchover control among a plurality of information sources as well as among a plurality of information processing devices, such that information transmitted from the plurality of information sources are supplied to the plurality of information processing devices in a predetermined manner. Particularly, the switchover device comprises a plurality of input terminals connected with the plurality of information sources, a first output terminal and a second output terminal connected with the plurality of information processing devices, switchover connection devices for effecting switchover connection between the plurality of input terminals on the one hand and the first, second output terminals on the other, and a switchover control device for controlling the switchover of the switchover connection devices.

More particularly, the Yuen patent does not disclose or suggest that during a process in which an information transmitted from one information source is supplied to the plurality of information processing devices, once there is an interrupt request for supplying information transmitted from another information source to the information processing devices, the switchover control device operates to control the switchover connection device to stop a connection between the first output terminal and one input terminal connected with the one information source, and to form a connection between the first output terminal and another input terminal connected with another information source, further to keep a connection between the second output terminal and an input terminal connected with the one information source. The

apparatus of the Yuen patent does not disclose or suggest the claimed switchover control device of the present invention.

In view of the forgoing, Applicants respectfully submit that the Yuen patent fails to disclose or suggest each and every element recited within independent claim 1, and therefore independent claim 1 is submitted as being patentable. Further based upon the patentability of independent claim 1, dependent claims 2-3 are also submitted as being patentable since they differ in scope from the parent independent claim.

If for any reason the Examiner determines that the application is not now in condition for allowance, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner contact undersigned counsel for the Applicants at the telephone number indicated below to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this application.

Dated: March 10, 2004

Respectfully submitted,



Marylee Jenkins
Registration No. 37,645
Attorney for Applicants

Customer No. 004372
AREN'T FOX PLLC
1675 Broadway
New York, NY 10019
Tel: (212) 484-3928
Fax: (212) 484-3990

MLJ/my

NYC/126058.1

- 7 -

Application Ser. No.: 10/054,979
Attorney Docket No.: 107156-00093